

DRUGS, Inc.

Part II

In November 1986, America's most decorated Vietnam war hero was sent into the notorious "Golden Triangle" to report on missing U.S. prisoners of war.

He returned with evidence of U.S. State Department and C.I.A. involvement in heroin trafficking - on a scale unheard of in criminal history.

This the second and final article on U.S. government involvement in the world's biggest industry -

Drugs Incorporated!

The following is extracted from a transcript of the video "A Nation Betrayed", featuring Lt. Col. James "Bo" Gritz addressing the American Liberty Lunch Club.

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Well, not so. Guess who shows up in Time Magazine? H. Ross Perot ... and he's on page 18, May 4th and it says, "Perot's Private Probes." H. Ross Perot was not in Burma with me, but I know now where he got his info. Four billion dollars opens a lot of doors for you. It didn't open a couple of doors, however, as I'll let you in on this story. H. Ross Perot had gained US agent investigation reports of Richard Armitage. Perot didn't know I was over in Burma. He was doing this on his own. This article said he pinned Richard Armitage. Armitage is a fat broad, literally. This is a giant of a man. And it demanded that Armitage resign because it says that H. Ross Perot accused him of being an a drug smuggler and an arms dealer.

That takes pretty big cajones. (laughter) It says that Perot then went to his friend, George Bush. It says that he gave evidence of wrong doing by Armitage. I'm quoting. Bush told Perot to go to the proper authorities. (sounds of shock and dismay by audience) I'm still reading now.

So the billionaire called on William Webster. He's now head of the CIA. It says that Perot made at least one visit to the White House carrying a pile of documents, yet he has received no support from the Reagan administration. In fact Frank Carlucci... who's he? He's the Secretary of Defence. And who was he before? Deputy director of Central Intelligence. Frank Carlucci called him in to ask him to stop pursuing Armitage. Talk about insulation! And when four billion dollars can't even get your foot in the door even though the man is a good Texan from Houston. Tell me there's no cover-up here.

Now H. Ross Perot was working on his own, he didn't know what Khun Sa had told us. Khun Sa doesn't have a television or a telephone, he doesn't know who Richard Armitage is. He doesn't give a damn. All he knows is the people who are on his records that he's dealt with. This affidavit though by a man by the name of Daniel Sheehan ... and you'll recognise Sheehan's name if you don't know him already by the Silkwood case. They won the Silkwood case there in Oklahoma and have done a few other things.

[Switch to a talk-show interview with Daniel Sheehan]

Sheehan: "There's little doubt at all that President Reagan was involved in a conspiracy to violate the Neutrality Act. He's been directly ordered by the United States Congress not to mount this military operation against Nicaragua. They've cut off all funds for him to do so, but he went to Saudi Arabia and various private citizens to raise the money in total violation of the Federal Neutrality Act. They're engaged in violations of the arms-export control act. They're engaged in violations of the Federal Racketeering Act. There is a whole federal racketeering syndicate that they like to refer to as 'The Enterprise', which is what Richard Secord referred to it as. But what it is in fact, Jim, is the off-the-shelf, stand-alone, self-financing, covert operations capacity that Oliver North talked about Bill Casey wanting to set up. Fact is, that it has been set up. Its been operating for many years now. Out from under the control of any president. Out from under the control of the director of Central Intelligence. Out from under the supervision of any intelligence committee.

Its run by Theodore Shakley, the former director of covert operations worldwide by the CIA under George Bush when George Bush was the director of the Central Intelligence Agency in 1976. And this crowd has set up the off-the-shelf operation and is carrying out not only a partnership with the drug dealers from Central America and from Southeast Asia, but also carrying out a major political assassination program which was participated in by William Buckley who was the Beirut section chief for the CIA who was kidnapped in March of 1984 and who was the subject of all the real negotiations for the sale of the TOW missiles to Iran. It was not a sale to open any openings to the moderates in Iran, nor was it in fact a negotiation to negotiate for the general release of hostages. It was initiated solely and exclusively to obtain the release of William Buckley because he knew about the whereabouts of the off-the-shelf operation. It was a criminal enterprise and they feared that if the American people found out about that there would be a huge constitutional scandal and the President of the United States would be impeached."

[Back to Bo at luncheon]

Bo: (referring to The Christic Institute) If they're telling the truth in this case, then we should look at the evidence they have. I've been told by my friends in the Central Intelligence that they are, "funded by

"Mort Abromowitz, the U.S. Ambassador at the embassy in Thailand, came to know of Armitage's involvement in the secret handling of opium funds, and called there to be initiated, an internal State Department heroin smuggling investigation directed against Richard Armitage."

the KGB." Well, when they tell me that and it's because Christic is talking bad about the government, it makes me think that maybe somebody higher up has told them, "hey go tell 'em that they're being funded by the KGB." I don't know too much more than that, but I do know ironically enough, can H. Ross Perot, General Khun Sa and the Christic, three different totally separate entities come up with the same information if it's not true?

This affidavit though by Daniel Sheehan ... there's his signatures swearing that it is the truth. He has uncovered information ... I just want to read you a couple of sentences. It says here that, "One of the officers in the US embassy in Thailand, one Mort Abromowitz (he was the Ambassador as a matter of fact), came to know of Armitage's involvement in the secret handling of opium funds and called there to be initiated a internal state department heroin smuggling investigation directed against Richard Armitage."

It says, "Armitage was a target of embassy personnel complaints to the effect that he was utterly failing to perform his duties on behalf of American MIA's." And Armitage reluctantly resigned as DOD special consultant on MIA's at the end of 1977.

It says, "From 1977 to 1979 Armitage remained in Bangkok opening and operating a business named the Far East Trading Company." It says that, "This company was in-fact merely a front for secret operations conducting opium money out of Southeast Asia to Tehran, Iran and the Nugan-Hand Bank."

It goes on ... There's three fingers now.

One, twelve thousand miles from here, from an infamous warlord

who doesn't even know Armitage, other than for the fact that he is the bagman.

H. Ross Perot gaining it from government testimony of agents investigating. But have you ever seen Armitage indicted? But if you look at these reports the agents have been farmed out. Anyone who comes up with a report of investigation against Armitage gets reassigned or retired. You'll recognise some of this.

This is back to Khun Sa's letter: "After 1979, Richard Armitage resigned from the US embassy's posting and set up the Far East Trading Company as a front for his continuation in the drug trade. Soon after, Daniel Arnold was made to handle the drug business as well as the transportation of arms sales. (Daniel Arnold was a CIA Station Chief). Jerry Daniels then took over the drug trade from Richard Armitage." Jerry Daniels was a CIA member. Jerry Daniels died mysteriously in Bangkok, Thailand. I wonder why.

I swore to defend this constitution. As a soldier I was brainwashed. And I wasn't a dumb soldier either. I've got advanced degrees in college, honors graduating from the Command and General Staff College of the United States Army, given the high command, served in the highest level staff positions in the Pentagon. And yet I thought that as a soldier I was to be apolitical. I was to never question what our executive branch civilians told us to do. Just do or die. What an education I got.

Back in 1975-76 I commanded special forces in Latin America. Same time George Bush was head of the CIA. We knew that Noriega was not only a drug smuggler then but we knew that he was a communist besides. He was the intelligence officer under Omar Terrijos (sp?).

We, the United States, payed Noriega three times what we pay our President to be our friend. I recommended more than ten years ago that we dump him. We didn't and now were seeing the result of it. My point is George Bush knew what was going on then. He was head of Central Intelligence. It was his OK that said pay Noriega hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. He knew what the intelligence reports were. That Noriega is a brother to Fidel Castro. Don't ever let him tell you he didn't know. I think a lot of the truth would come out if we tried General Noriega because he knows what happened and would be willing to tell what happened, but there is nobody in the administration that wants to hear what happened.

We know were not going to try him. That's just a ruse. Read the newspapers about three months before we indicted him. I saw where Armitage went down to Panama to warn Noriega, that if he didn't get under control that we were going to eliminate him. Well, Noriega has bigger cajones than any bureaucrat that you'll ever meet. He's a little guy like H. Ross Perot, but he is tougher than Texas cowhide and he will pull the plug on the Panama Canal if we try to force him out. I think Noriega is going to come out the winner.

And by the way, can you imagine what Armitage did? See, Tom Harvey and Armitage are best friends. They lift weights every day in the Pentagon athletic club. I know when we got back from Burma that Harvey rubbed his hands together and said, "Hey Dick, come on over to the White House. Bo Gritz just got back from Golden Triangle with information on POW's from Khun Sa."

Can you imagine what happened when Khun Sa said, "... and I will disclose every government official I've dealt with for 20 years?" I bet you Dick Armitage involuntarily urinated right there! (much laughter) And all of a sudden US declares 'no mercy'. Its a war of words. No president that's ever declared a war on drugs has ever fought one.

But there's a way to do it and end-running the Constitution is not the way. But here's what we've done. You saw Ollie North stand up and become an acclaimed hero.

Now Ollie North is a Marine that I believe has done everything he thought was right to stem the rising tide of communism. But I want to give you some facts and you decide for yourself. I think Ollie North had good intentions but he was manipulated and used.

Have we won the war in Nicaragua? Has the end justified the means because the planes carrying arms to the Contras came back loaded with

drugs. I submit to you that we have lost. Did we ever intend to win?
[Cut to a scene with female reporter interviewing Mike Tulliver, a former pilot who flew drug runs.]

Reporter: "The government decided to get into the drug business in order to pay for the Contras? The American government?"

Mike Tulliver: "As incredulous as it may sound, I believe that they not only decided to get into it I think that they orchestrated the whole thing."

Reporter (narrating): "Mike Tulliver is a pilot who's principle occupation has been smuggling drugs. He's currently serving a three and one half year sentence in a federal prison in Miami for a conviction unrelated to the secret flights he made for the Contras. He says he was approached in 1985 by long-time CIA operatives to run what they called 'supplies'."

"From 1977 to 1979 Armitage remained in Bangkok opening and operating a business named the Far East Trading Company. This company was in-fact merely a front for secret operations conducting opium money out of Southeast Asia to Tehran, Iran and the Nugan-Hand Bank."

[Cut to clip with George Morales]

Reporter: "Why would the CIA allow drug planes to come into the United States loaded with coke?"

Morales: "Money."

Reporter narrating: "George Morales is a world champion boat racer. He is also a world renowned cocaine trafficker whose empire extended from Colombia to Miami. Morales was indicted for running cocaine in 1984. He says the CIA used his indictment to pressure him into providing planes, pilots and three million dollars in cash to the Contras. He too is in federal prison awaiting sentencing on the '84 charge."

Reporter: "So you're saying that drug planes were allowed into the states as long as somebody was kicking money into the Contra coffer?"

Morales: "Definitely."

Reporter: "Is this like just a one-time occurrence? Somebody snuck in?"

Morales: "No."

Reporter: "Frequent?"

Morales: "Yes."

Reporter: "Routine?"

Morales: "Yes."

[Back to Tulliver]

"Believe it or not, the entire business is compartmentalised. I'm like a Teamster. I'm in transportation. You've got people who are in loading. You've got people who are in offloading. You've got people who are in distribution. You've got people who are in sales. It's like an IBM situation."

[Reporter narrating again]

"Gary Betzner was one of George Morales's top pilots. He too is in federal prison in Miami on an unrelated drug conviction. His sentence is 15 years. Like Morales and Tulliver he has little to gain from talking about these drug flights."

Betzner: "I took two loads, small aircraft loads of weapons to John Hull's ranch in Costa Rica and returned back to Florida with approximately 1000 kilos of cocaine."

Reporter: "What exactly was in the plane that you flew from Fort Lauderdale?"

Betzner: "Oh there was some C4 explosives, M60 machine guns. It was stacked all the way to the ceiling."

Reporter: "How many pounds of weaponry?"

Betzner: "I would estimated around 2500 pounds. I understood right away that it wasn't the private guns that went down that were that important. It was what was coming back that could buy much larger and better and more sophisticated weapons. It was unaccounted for cash."

[Reporter narrating]

"... under heavy security Ramone Rodriguez was brought to Capitol Hill. *Ocean Hunter*, it appears, is just the beginning. Under oath, he told Senators that the drug connection is much larger. That he'd handled a direct 10 million dollars in cash contributions from the Colombian cocaine cartels to the Contras."

Rodriguez: "Outside the United States drug dealers are very powerful people. They have cash. The CIA deals primarily with items outside of the US. If they're going to deal in foreign country's policies and politics they're going to run up against or run with the drug dealers. It cannot be done any other way."

Reporter: "Do you have any evidence, any proof, any ideas of whether the large sums of cash you had delivered to the Contras, whether it actually made it to the Contras?"

Rodriguez: "There is no way to trace cash. My guess it that not all of it got there, but I'm a cynic."

Reporter: "Where would it have ended up?"

Rodriguez: "I would say that you're gonna find a lot of it in nest eggs, foreign accounts, waiting for the day when the Contra issue is no longer popular, when Congress votes it out of existence and they have to do something else for a living."

[Back to Bo at the luncheon]

Point is there are three sources now all saying one little bureaucrat. Look how bureaucrats fall! You break wind wrong, you're out of here in an election year.

Why hasn't Mr. Armitage been investigated? When we came back I was told by telephone in Bangkok, "Bo, if you don't erase and forget everything that you have done, you're going to get hurt." I was told, "Everybody loves you. Nobody wants to hurt you. No one wants to put a war hero in jail, but if you don't cooperate you're going to hurt the government." And I said, "Joe, whose government am I gonna hurt?" (lots of applause)

I am sick and tired of watching the result of poor politics sending



Samerille

our soldiers overseas to do something that they were not meant to do. I'm a fighter, but when we fight we ought to fight to win. And when we send people we ought to be willing to bring them back again. (much applause)

We did go before congress. You know who runs the drug task force in the House of Representatives? Lawrence Smith.

He is a democrat from "Miami Vice" Florida and his staff told me before I came up, "Bo, you better be well-heeled-for-bear because the people who keep the chairman in office are more prone to promote drugs than they are to fight them."

When I got up there Lawrence Smith would not allow any members

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of the task force to view the video tapes that we brought from Khun Sa in Burma.

He asked me, "Colonel, how could a man of your intelligence put any stock at all in what a drug warlord would say?" I said, "Mr. Chairman, aren't we dealing with Michael Gorbochev and he's a communist. But we talk to him because he has the missiles and we want to reduce them. Khun Sa has all the heroin and if we want to stop it he's the guy we ought to see."

And he says, "What's this business about a heroin highway? How do we know the Thai's didn't build that road to attack Khun Sa?"

And I said, "Well Chairman, if they did, they did a heck of a good job because it goes right straight to his headquarters and nobody is attacking and he his own little customs houses all along the road where the little bar comes down."

He ended the hearing by saying, "I don't think there is any substantive evidence here that would indicate any further investigation need be made."

He never called H. Ross Perot. He never called the Christic Institute. He never allowed the tapes or the letter that Khun Sa wrote because I found out that video tapes aren't enough. They said, "Well, he didn't write anything."

Then we had a letter with his signature on it under the Shan seal.

Point is Ladies and Gentlemen, there is a parallel government this day that lives within the United States government. It is a parasite!

I don't think it makes a hoot who you vote for for President. The same people are gonna run this country. I stand before you today. You gotta know who I am. I'm an indicted felon because part of that phone call in Thailand said, "Bo, if you don't erase and forget, if you don't come to the apartment (that was a safehouse in Washington, DC), you're gonna be charged with 15 years and your going to serve as a felon and we're going to bring up aggravated charges and hostile witnesses." That's not my kind of language. I said, "Friend, that's an insult to you, me and two hundred years of constitutional government." He said, "Bo, don't give me that. Bring everything you've got to the apartment." I said, "Who's going to be there, Joe?" And he said, "You know me better than that, Bo. It will just be me and Tom Harvey." I said, "OK, I'll bring this stuff dear citizen. I'll show it to you then you

tell me to erase and forget." When I got to LA with the tape he said, "Bo, don't come." He was that much of a friend. He said, "Don't come. Hide those tapes. Everybody's laying for you." He said, "But please destroy and forget. That's all the state department wants you to do because otherwise you're going to jail as a felon." You know what they charged me with? They did charge me. Misuse of a passport. Now that is a weeny charge for somebody that's been in clandestine warfare for more than 30 years. That throws me in league with Jane Fonda. She was cavorting with the enemy and misusing her passport. Ollie North and Robert McValium went to Iran on Irish passports so they could do an illegal arms deal, but nobody has charged them. That's because they're cooperating.

Well, I'm not worried about that. The US attorney doesn't know how hard to take it because I said, "I don't deny I misused a passport. I misused it many times. Every time in pursuit of US prisoners of war." You dear citizen, see if you would erase and go back to sleep and forget. I don't think that you will. In my defense I got a lawyer, he's the former US attorney for Nevada. He took my case for free other than all the expenses it cost to bring in witnesses. We're going to use this court as a forum for prisoners of war and for government in drug dealing because you know you can't sue the government, but when the government jumps on you now you can turn it around on them. That's exactly what were doing. I got a plea the other day saying, "Bo, just go ahead and cop a plea it'll be a misdemeanor." No way José, were going all the way with this one.

[Narrator]

"The seriousness of Gritz's discoveries during his first mission to the Golden Triangle, however was brought home immediately after his return. Scott Weekly, his Operation Lazarus team member and veteran of several POW recovery missions, was arrested and charged with a federal violation resulting from the Afghan training program he helped Gritz conduct."

"Weekly was a classmate of Oliver North's at Annapolis and has a PhD in physics. After numerous forays into hostile enemy territory neither he nor Gritz were prepared for the treachery that awaited the mat home."

[Bo in Thailand]

The ambassador level person for the US government in charge of narcotics control made a statement immediately following the release of this tape to the White House that the United States would never agree to talk with General Khun Sa about drug control because he was such a black-hearted criminal.

I believe that we can show through facts that have already been established by the US Justice Department and on-going investigations that there are people currently who saw that tape in the US government that all that they could do to stop this interview right here for fear they would be exposed. Even to the point where they arrested Scott Weekly for a minor technicality of transporting explosives illegally on a commercial airliner. Very briefly we were training a couple of Afghan freedom fighters through the knowledge and request of the US State Department and other official agencies. The explosives were procured for us from Fort Sill, Oklahoma and were naturally transported, because we were using them at a remote desert base, by aircraft. There was no danger to the civilian aircraft. The explosives were C4, plastic, frontline safe. You could shoot them with a machine gun and they wouldn't go off. There were no detonating devices with us. Federal agents told Scott when he was taken into custody that it wasn't a technicality and that the real target was me. They were under pressure by the US attorney's office to find out whether or not I was in kahoots with North and Poindexter since I had travelled to Latin America and to the Middle East in pursuit of various government associated projects.

The fact is and the truth is that I've had nothing to do with North and Poindexter or any illegal activities either in South America or the Middle East. Now the truth is that I believe that elements in the US government are afraid that they will be exposed for their illegal activities and drug trafficking. Through that exposure that this will cease and they will loose their power.

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become an instrument to legitimise certain interests".

THE LOCKERBIE BOMBING

Many interesting pieces of information have emerged over the months and years since Lockerbie. These include:-

- The plane, PanAm Flight 103 would normally have been flying over the ocean at the time of the explosion. It is alleged that the plane detoured to avoid a pressure system, which took it on a new flight path over Scotland. One wonders, if the explosion had occurred over the ocean - the terrorist bomb angle would have only surfaced if a group claimed responsibility for it.
- The first doctors on the scene counted one body more than the later official total. The CIA was implicated in removing one body.
- Private Eye magazine has allegedly been given evidence from a local farmer who found a suitcase full of drugs in his field after the crash. He has been amazed that he was never called to give evidence at the inquest, despite telling every official he could find.
- A Scottish Member of Parliament, Tam Dalyell, has charged that the CIA may have created "evidence" to make Libya take the rap for the bombing.
- The PLO launched its own secret investigation into the Lockerbie affair, and came to the conclusion that Libya was innocent and not implicated in the bombing. However, the PLO did declare that it had received information which implicated other middle east parties, and had compiled a

detailed list of names etc which it would make available.

- Former CIA Head of Investigation into the bombing, Vincent Cannistraro, told the New York *Times* it was "outrageous" to pin the whole thing onto Qadhafi.

Finally, on the 19th April this year, *TIME MAGAZINE* ran a cover story which basically exonerated the two accused Libyan nationals.

For those who missed it- a veteran *TIME* journalist concluded that a Syrian drug dealer with ties to Western intelligence agencies was behind the planting of the bomb that destroyed PanAm Flight 103.

It was basically a United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) "sting" operation. *TIME* fixes the blame on al-Khassar, who it says was being allowed to smuggle drugs into the U.S. in return for his promise to help obtain the release of six U.S. hostages held in Beirut.

How quickly people have forgotten the 1988 downing of an Iranian plane containing 290 civilians by the *USS Vincennes*. This is a U.S. warship that blows a civilian plane out of the sky, killing 290 people, and then in April 1990, George Bush confers a medal on the ship's captain for doing it! Imagine a Libyan warship blowing a U.S. plane up, killing all on board, and when the warship gets back, Qadhafi gives the captain a medal for it? Not likely!

With its small population of 3.5 million people, and negligible military forces, the only threat Muammar al-Qadhafi can pose to the west, is as a rallying point for those opposing the New World Order. If so, look out Libya!

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If they had tried to put pressure by causing Scott Weekly even to be judged guilty ... because he was told if he would plead guilty that there would be no problem... that he would be given probation... that there would be no more pursuit... that it would be unsupervised probation which would allow him to continue to travel overseas. In truth, he was sentenced. The fact is that Scott was told that if he would plead guilty that there would be no further investigation and that all would go well for him and that if he did not plead guilty there would be a tether put on all of us so that we would not be able to travel and at that time we were very very close to negotiating the release of American prisoners of war. The only reason that Scott pleaded guilty was so that other members of the Operation Lazarus team, myself included, would be free to continue the mission of liberating US prisoners of war, which is ongoing now.

[Narrator discussing Weekly's case]

"Scott Weekly was made to serve fourteen months of a five year sentence before it was demonstrated that the agents had removed sensitive documents from his pre-sentencing file which would have exonerated him."

"The sentence was simply dismissed.

Lance Trimmer, a former Green Beret communications specialist with the Lazarus team, accompanied Gritz to Burma in Weekly's place in May, 1987 where he witnessed Khun Sa naming the US officials involved in drug trafficking. As a professional private investigator, since returning he has spearheaded the effort to document and publicise the team's findings and was instrumental in obtaining Scott Weekly's release from Long Poke Federal Prison. In the process he has been unjustifiably arrested and detained three times by the police and federal authorities."

[Bo talks about Khun Sa's offer]

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[Bo talking in Southeast Asian Field]

There are personalities within the United States Government who have, as early as the early 1960's, trafficked in opium and heroin to finance assassination programs initially

approved by the Central Intelligence Agency, which didn't work then and aren't working now. If these assassinations programs spread from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand to Iran, to Nicaragua, to Libya and have the potential of continuing to spread unless some exposure is finally done to eliminate these high officials. H. Ross Perot has said as a result of his investigation he has found a, "snake pit without a bottom." He says that the people involved will do anything to keep their wrong doings covered up. He even says that a man that was responsible for the Phoenix assassination program is now on the personal staff of George Bush.

[Narrator introducing Barry Flinn]

"Barry Flinn is the Bangkok station chief for Operation Lazarus. In May of 1987 he served as the cameraman with Colonel Gritz on his second trip to visit Khun Sa. Also during this time he has made other trips into ShanLand. On one occasion he accompanied a journalist from Australia who filmed the proceedings and made this the subject of a news program in Australia."

[Cut to Barry Flinn in Bangkok discussing his trip with Bo]

"My name is Barry Flinn and I live in Bangkok, Thailand. I have been in